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Amherst Public Arts Commission Meeting – September 12, 2012

First Floor Meeting Room, Amherst Town Hall

Called to order 4:15 p.m.

Present: Terry Rooney (Chair), Rachel Hankinson, Bonnie Isman, Rosario Gaddier, Randa Nachbar, Jenny Lind

Absent: Rene Theberge, Jim Wald (Select Board liaison)

Plans for Amherst Biennial.

Terry showed a sneak peak of the Amherst Biennial 2012 catalog being designed by Elizabeth Pols. The front cover design will be used as the signature image at all Biennial sites. Work was assigned as follows:

Jen – Get sample agreements with artists to Terry. Artist agreements with liability release and commission information must be signed when they deliver their artwork. Intake at Frost Library gallery, Installation at Valley Frameworks & Hastings and Frost Gallery

Rene – labels for artwork. Terry will contact him and installation help various sites

Rachel – Intake at Frost Library gallery on Sept. 22, storage & installation help

Randa – Work with Michelle from Hope & Feathers gallery. Contact teachers to arrange field trips to see artwork, especially Fort River, middle and high schools. Manage intake for Emily's Rhapsody

Rosario – Promotion design. Rework street banner design and production, create e-card, labels for artwork. Poster design, map flyer.

Bonnie – go to meetings, create map with GIS Dept., liaison with Jones Library installation. We will need 25 copies of the map 11x17", one to display at each site. Also a 8.5x11" version.

Terry – Liaison with artists and curators, negotiate more space, media releases. Contacts with yarn bombing knitters. Everything else.

Opening events on October 6: Receptions at Amherst College Frost Library gallery and other galleries, Samuel Rowlett performs his art piece walking from Amherst College to UMass. After party at the Harp to see videos.

October 7: Karen Dolmanisth begins her installation at Sterns Chapel, Mead Art Museum at noon. She will also have a closing performance on November 30. Jen offered to assist.

November 1 Art Walk: Eric Carle Museum will be open with free admission for museum and reception. Lord Jeffery Inn and all Biennials site should hold receptions except storefronts. (possible reception for Kendrick Park?)

Artists' statements will not be posted at the gallery sites, but will be requested to help establish the context for individual pieces shown at Zanna and Hastings and at the art installations.

Report on Kendrick Park meeting.

Terry reported on her meeting with Town Manager Musante, Jonathan Tucker and Christine Brestrup from the Planning Dept., and Bonnie to discuss the process for getting permission to display artwork in public areas. The Select Board controls the public ways (roads, roundabouts, etc.) with advice from the Town Manager. The Town Manager controls the public parks, with

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advice from the Design Review Board. The Conservation Commission controls the conservation areas, such as the Hitchcock Center property. Terry and Bonnie will meet with various Town committees in the next two weeks to get approvals and promote the Biennial.

Terry thinks that we are establishing a good relationship with Town departments and the Kendrick Park Committee which could lead to a future play park with nature sculptures. We also brought up the "Realignment Park" public art project at the south end of Kendrick Park to see if it could be re-used. Another project for the future is Samuel Rowlett's proposal for a performance piece at Puffer's Pond.

Recommendations for sculptures in Kendrick Park and the Atkins roundabout. In order to move ahead with Town committees, the following motions were approved unanimously.

APAC recommends to the Select Board the temporary installation of a multi-media sculpture by William Brayton in the roundabout at Atkins Corner for the Amherst Biennial 2012 from October 1 through November 30. The sculpture would be installed on a platform of marine grade plywood, painted gray, by the Dept. of Public Works. (moved by Bonnie, second by Randa)

APAC recommends to the Town Manager the temporary installation of sculpture in aqua resin by Lee Hutt in Kendrick Park for the Amherst Biennial 2012 from October 1 through November 30. The rabbit sculptures would be installed on large rocks by the Department of Public Works. (moved by Bonnie, second by Rachel)

Fund raising update. Funds received so far: \$1,800 from the Amherst Cultural Council, \$3,000 from application fees, \$500 anonymous donation for Portal in Kendrick Park, \$1,000 from Florence Saving Bank. Terry noted that she will be working on a Kickstarter campaign next to help pay for the Portal sculpture by Matt Johnson as well as writing a grant to the Amherst Cultural Council for the capital campaign to purchase Portal for \$10,000.

Minutes of Aug. 30. No action.

Adjourned at 6 p.m.

Submitted by Bonnie Isman